

DATE: APRIL 9, 2004

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE MARINE EDUCATION CENTER PROJECT

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has directed the preparation of and intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines. DPR is the lead agency for the proposed project under CEQA.

Project Location: Año Nuevo State Reserve
San Mateo County, California

Description of the Proposed Project:

The Department of Parks and Recreation (California State Parks) proposes to make improvements at Año Nuevo State Reserve. The project consists of rehabilitation of three historic buildings, their adaptive reuse as a Marine Education Center, and related utility and site improvements. The following is a summary of the proposed work:

- Removal of existing nonhistoric building elements, repair or replacement of missing historic fabric and construction of new elements for the proposed new use.
- Refurbishing of historic building fabric and finishes, upgrading the existing structural system for vertical and lateral loads, and upgrading building mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems to meet proposed uses.
- Rehabilitation of the building exterior and construction of new stairs and other exitways to comply with health and safety codes.
- Removal of existing modular trailer office.
- Museum collection purchasing, cataloging, packing, moving, and storage of exhibits and objects located in various buildings throughout the park in order to protect them from construction activities and prepare them for use in interpretive exhibits.
- New enhanced interpretive exhibits including communication, electrical, and audiovisual equipment.
- Improvements to the site including path of travel, utility distribution systems, and fencing.

Public Review Period:

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, beginning April 9, 2004. Questions regarding project specifics should be directed to Lori Murchison, Project Manager, at (916) 445-8965.

Your views and comments on this project are welcomed. Written comments should be submitted to the following address:

Gail Sevrens
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Northern Service Center
One Capital Mall, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX: (916) 445-9100
Email: gsevr@parks.ca.gov

Submissions must be postmarked or received by fax or email no later than May 9, 2004. The originals of any faxed document must be received by regular mail within ten working days following the deadline for comments, along with proof of successful fax transmission.

Copies of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration may be reviewed at the following locations during normal business hours:

- Northern Service Center
California Department of Parks & Recreation
One Capitol Mall - Suite 410
Sacramento, CA 95814
- California Department of Parks & Recreation
Santa Cruz District Headquarters
Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park
303 Big Trees Park Road
Felton, CA 95018
- Año Nuevo State Reserve
New Years Creek Road
Pescadero, CA 94060
- Half Moon Bay Library
620 Correas Street
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
- Redwood City Library
1044 Middlefield Road
Redwood City, CA 94063
- Santa Cruz Central Branch Library
224 Church Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060-3873
- California Department of Parks & Recreation website
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=981